

Mr. Edward R. Saunders

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Associate Historian

Historical Report

In connection with the historical record of CIA and its predecessor in preparation, it will of course be necessary to mention fiscal activities at some length.

The general plan is to have a chapter on each of the Offices and their important subdivisions. It is hoped that everything will be covered in suitable proportion. In most instances a list of questions has been given to each Office with the request that answers be prepared and other matters touched on which seem to be of importance but had inadvertently escaped the attention of the questioner. In other words, someone on the inside is better equipped to write the story of his Office than an outsider.

In the case of your Office, however, I don't know what questions to ask for fear of becoming indiscreet. The historical record will, in all probability, receive a high classification and its distribution will be extremely limited. Mr. Arthur B. Darling who is in charge of the project will concern himself with the covert offices. It might be, therefore, that you would prefer to deal with him in regard to the handling of unvouchered funds and other operational support.

What we would like is a succinct account of the activities of your department told in your own words, and with the realization on our part that much of the matter is highly sensitive. We should like a preliminary draft in 30 days. This is much to ask but we hope not too much.

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